

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A communication method, having a protocol suitable for bi-directional Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) communications with media streams including audio and/or video data, and based on a real-time transport protocol (RTP) as described in Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) Request for Comments (RFC) 1889, the method comprising:

exchanging wherein packets mainly comprised of a header part and a payload part are exchanged between at least two users, thus forming to form a RTP channel, wherein; and providing at least one sub-channel, which is embedded within the RTP channel, said sub-channel being adapted to carry command, signaling and/or information data.

2. (currently amended): The communication method protoeol according to claim 1, wherein the header part of each packet comprises at least one extension bit in a predetermined place whereby allowing to provide one or several additional fields in the header or in a header extension of said packets, to carry said command, signaling and/or information data.

3. (currently amended): A method for operating a bi-directional Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) communication over an Internet Protocol (IP) network, based on a real-time

transport protocol (RTP) as described for example in Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) Request For Comments (RFC) 1889, wherein the method comprising:

exchanging media streams including audio and/or video data ~~are exchanged~~, over a RTP channel, between at least two users, in the form of packets ~~mainly~~ comprised of a header part and a payload, characterized in that

wherein additional command, signaling and/or information data is transmitted in both transmission directions through at least one sub-channel embedded within the RTP channel ~~and available in both transmission directions.~~

4. (currently amended): The method according to claim 3, wherein:
the header of each transmitted ~~packets~~packet comprises at least one extension bit in a predetermined place ~~whereby providing, and~~
one or several additional fields provided in the header or in a header extension of said packets ~~to~~ carry said command, signaling and/or information data.

5. (currently amended): The method according to claim 4, wherein:
~~providing additional field(s) to carry said additional signaling data for transmission between users~~ ~~consists, in relation to the IETF RFC 1899 protocol features and for each transmitted packet, comprises in~~ setting the marker bit (M) and the extension bit (X), ~~in~~ coding the payload type bits (PT) with the information of the user to user signals, and ~~in~~ providing a header extension following the normal RTP header, ~~and~~

the additional fields comprising comprise a profile indication field, a length indication field, a signaling type indication field and several bytes for receiving the additional data to be carried, and

the number of bytes corresponding correspond to the value of the content of the length indication field.

6. (canceled).

7. (currently amended): A method according to claim 34, wherein, upon reception of a RTP packet, the method further comprises analyzing the at least one extension bit in the header of the received packet, by a the communication terminal of the user on the reception side, analyses the header, in particular the at least one extension bit, of the received packet and takes to take into account the command, signaling and/or information data contained in the additional fields of said header or header extension.

8. (currently amended): A multimedia telecommunication terminal adapted to perform a bi-directional Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) communication based on a real-time transport protocol (RTP) as described in Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) Request For Comments (RFC) 1889, wherein said terminal comprises: means to carry out the method according to claim 3

means for exchanging media streams including audio and/or video data, over a RTP channel, between at least two users, in the form of packets comprised of a header part and a payload,

wherein additional command, signaling and/or information data is transmitted in both transmission directions through at least one sub-channel embedded within the RTP channel.